



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES
GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (GAC)
TO THE DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES (DDDS)**

March 16, 2017

The Governor's Advisory Council to the DDDS met on March 16, 2017, at the 1056 Woodbrook Conference Room in Dover.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Terri Hancharick, Chair
Timothy F. Brooks, Ed.D.
Angie Sipple
Thomas Rust

ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Susan Pereira
Gail Womble

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Jill Rogers
Marie Nonnenmacher
James Dickinson
Lynda Lord
Terry Macy
Adamarys Pino - minutes

GUESTS PRESENT: Stan Trier, Guest
Terry Olson, The ARC of Delaware
Libby Cusack, Parent
Gary Cassedy, Easter Seals
Carol Kenton, Parent

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The February 16, 2017 minutes were approved.

NEXT MEETING: To be determined.

AGENDA-ADDITIONS: No Additions

Agenda Subjects

1. Updates on:

a. Lifespan Waiver

The Waiver amendment was submitted to CMS by DMMA on March 6, 2017, that included changes that resulted from public comments. The process to have the Waiver amendment and public comments published on the DDDS and DMMA websites is occurring.

It was DDDS' hope that by January 2018, members in the lifespan who live in a residential setting would be able to receive non-Waiver benefits via the managed care organizations (MCO's) although this is delayed due to technical issues; therefore, these benefits will continue as a fee for service. DDDS has been working with DMMA to ensure that the system can accommodate people living at home that continue to receive benefits via MCO's. The outcome of work includes that anyone who meets Medicaid income thresholds can continue enrollment with a MCO to manage regular health care benefits. People above Medicaid income threshold (none currently enrolled in managed care) that reside in a residential setting will continue to receive regular health care delivered as a fee for service. This supports the current MMIS structure. Services will be the same but the delivery will be different.

b. Targeted Case Management

An RFP was issued in November 2016, of which four vendors submitted proposals. As a result of the proposal review process, two vendors were invited and presented to DDDS two weeks ago. DDDS is working with the Procurement Office before beginning negotiations with the selected preliminary vendors. DDDS hopes to award the contact to vendor no later than March 24, 2017. Once the contract is awarded and executed, transitions will begin to include current contracted DDDS Family Support Specialists (FSS's) transitioning to employment with the targeted case management vendor (vendor to interview current contracted FSS's per RFP language).

c. Federal ACA

Health and Human Services Secretary, Tom Price, and CMS Administrator Seema Verma sent a letter to governors emphasizing their desire to work with states and their support of flexibility within states. There are many open questions including caps for states versus a per person cap amount. During a call with DMMA, it appeared hopeful that if caps are used there might be stratified groups within the caps. DDDS continues to shape what we can, adapt where we must and stay in communication with authority and stakeholder groups.

Reports include that some are going to the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington DC on Sunday. Michael Gamel-McCormick is no longer with the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and reportedly is now working with Senator Bob Casey, Jr. from Pennsylvania who replaced Senator Tom Harkin as championing for disabilities in congress.

Albert Shield's is Governor Carney's Policy Director and Molly Magarik, DHSS Deputy Secretary worked directly with Governor Carney while he served as U.S. Representative in Washington DC; therefore, Ms. Magarik is familiar with issues at the federal level.

d. DDDS Budget

DDDS is working to identify opportunities for cost savings without any negative effects. The Stockley Center is currently experiencing a comprehensive assessment/re-evaluation to include acuity, and needs of people served to match with staffing levels due to the declining census that is currently at 48 and the retirement of Stockley Center Director, Adele Wemlinger. DDDS is also re-examining the role of the Stockley Center Director. Changes have the potential to increase some of the work on the community side, relating to investigations and quality.

Kim Blunt, a licensed nursing home administrator was appointed as the interim director of Stockley Center. Ms. Blunt is expected to act in this capacity for 90 days and is assisting with the comprehensive assessment of Stockley Center.

The Stockley Initiative is ongoing; the report and recommendations are located at the following link: http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/admin/files/stockley_finaldraft101513.pdf. Some activity has occurred including work on hiking trails, Head Start and DNREC is currently working from campus, partnerships with faith organizations, etc. DDDS anticipates that part of the role of the new Stockley Center Director is to continue directing this initiative. Discussions of possibilities of providing respite services at the Mary Ann Coverdale Center are also occurring.

2. Joint Finance Committee Follow Up

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) approached hearings differently this year and started with the base budget document. Governor Carney's budget reset process is ongoing in order to propose his Governor's Recommended Budget toward the middle to end of April 2017.

To date there has been no discussion of across the board budget cuts. People continue to try to understand the best way to determine budget cuts. By thinking differently about DDDS' actions, opportunities are realized. Delaware's current administration appears more interested in departments/divisions determining what is needed to allow continuance of mission and to assist to further.

In the context of less funding that DDDS would like to have for providers there was a general conversation about how the medical field is moving toward a value based payment system and how this would fit in DDDS' supports and services. DDDS is thinking about how quality, efficiency, and what value looks like to provide the best supports consistent with DDDS' mission. From discussions with NASDDDS, other states are asking questions surrounding value based payments. To date, no "best practice" is established. This provides DDDS an opportunity to determine what is best for Delaware while putting together the infrastructure around tracking and understanding quality, developing quality measurements, how to connect quality with payment, etc. while piggybacking on the work of the Quality Work Group.

During the course of the hearings, JFC had questions that follow:

- Targeted Case Management RFP - if Delaware vendors were included in selection process
- JFC wanted to be certain that the Waiver application is sent to JFC for review via the Controller General's Office prior to submission to CMS, as per epilogue language.
- JFC has questions surrounding transition programs from school to adulthood. DDDS has provided preliminary information and is in the process of providing more information surrounding transitioning from school, i.e. what does DDDS' transition program look like, which schools are participating, how to get in the schools that participate, what it looks like once there and where might the possibilities be.

The GAC discussed how a transition coordinator is needed at every high school, not only for students with disabilities transitioning but for typical students that are transitioning from high school to college or other career choices. There are many resources in schools that have a higher concentration of students with disabilities; however, schools that only teach to a few such

students do not have the same service set available. DDDS is looking to find a way to align services throughout high schools.

3. PM 46

At GAC recommendation, this agenda subject will be discussed during next GAC meeting.

4. Shared Living Follow Up

At GAC recommendation, this agenda subject will be discussed during next GAC meeting.

5. Other Business

No other business discussed.

Announcements and Informational Items

On April 5, 2017, beginning at 11 a.m. A.N.D (formerly DelARF) is holding a Public Rally - Disability Advocacy Day. These events are being held in Dover, Delaware on The Green (across from Legislative Hall) in support of advocating for provider funding.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.